

Anthony D. White Jr.

November 9, 2007

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20554

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Re: Request for Waiver of Form 471 Deadline Imposed by Universal  
Service Administrator, CC Docket No. 02-6

Applicant Name: North Salem Central School District  
Entity Number: 123667  
Funding Year: 2007

## Request for Waiver

During the summer, E-Rate Central was retained by the North Salem CSD to be their E-rate consultant going forward. When completing a detailed review of the district's E-rate history, we found that as a result of the employee turnover, no E-rate work has been done for FY 2007 other than the district filing a successful Form 470 (Form 470 # 472430000592536).

During the FY 2007 window, the North Salem CSD staged a very large administrative overhaul that clearly disintegrated the everyday work schedule of district employees. We determined that this constitutes a clerical and ministerial error of a similar nature to other E-rate filing problems that the FCC has already addressed in its *Bishop Perry* and other Resolution Orders. In the *Bishop Perry* order the FCC stated:

*"Based on the facts and circumstances of these specific cases, we find that good cause exists to waive the deadline for filing the FCC Form 471 found in section 54.507 of the Commission's rules. Under Bureau precedent deadlines have been strictly enforced for the E-rate Program, including those pertaining to the FCC Form 471. We nevertheless find that good cause exists to waive the deadline in these cases. Generally, these applicants claim that staff mistakes or confusion resulted in the late filing of their FCC Form 471s. We note that the primary jobs of most of the people filling out these forms include school administrators, technology coordinators and teachers, as opposed to positions dedicated to pursuing federal grants, especially in small school districts."*

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The above statement made by the FCC in this order clearly defines what occurred at the North Salem CSD when the district changed several top administrators. In the *Bishop Perry* order, the FCC found that denial of funding was an overly severe penalty for violations of procedural rules not involving instances of waste, fraud, and abuse.

In this Request, we ask for similar relief and consideration of USAC's Form 471 deadline.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Anthony D. White Jr.  
awhite@e-ratecentral.com  
On behalf of North Salem Central School District